



MIKE CAUSEY
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

April 4, 2023

The Honorable W. Ted Alexander
Senator
300 N. Salisbury Street, Room. 621
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

The Honorable George G. Cleveland
Representative
300 N. Salisbury Street, Room. 417A
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

The Honorable Carl Ford
Senator
300 N. Salisbury Street, Room. 625
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

The Honorable Dennis Riddell
Representative
300 N. Salisbury Street, Room. 416A
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

The Honorable Steve Jarvis
Senator
300 N. Salisbury Street, Room. 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

Re: Report on Firefighter Relief Funds

Dear Senators and Representatives,

Enclosed is the Department of Insurance's report on various relief funds pursuant to G.S. § 58-2-121. The report provides the statutorily required information for each local relief fund board, the Statewide Firefighters' Relief Fund, and the Rescue Squad Workers' Relief Fund.

The General Assembly has my gratitude for its continued commitment to supporting the volunteer fire and rescue/EMS departments throughout our state. I thank you for allowing the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) to have a role in these vital and important programs.

With kindest regards,


Mike Causey
Insurance Commissioner
State Fire Marshal

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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MIKE CAUSEY
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER & STATE FIRE MARSHAL

BRIAN TAYLOR, CHIEF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

REPORT ON VARIOUS RELIEF FUNDS

Pursuant to G.S. § 58-2-121, the Department of Insurance is required to report to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and the Senate Appropriations Committee of General Government and Information Technology certain information about each local firefighters' relief fund board, the Statewide Firefighters' Relief Fund and the Rescue Squad Workers' Relief fund. The information required to be reported is: the total amount of money disbursed from the relief funds controlled by each of the entities; the amount of money spent by each entity for each of the statutorily permissible uses; and each entity's ending fund balance.

Local Relief Fund Boards

There are a total of 1214 local relief fund boards in North Carolina. In most instances, each fire district has its own local relief fund, in several counties, fire districts have joined together to have a single relief fund. G.S. § 58-84-33 outlines the purposes for which the funds may be disbursed. Overall, the total amount of money disbursed by all the local relief funds in 2022 was \$11,931,686.10. Attachment A is a spreadsheet with information about the total amount of money disbursed from each local relief fund, the amount spent for each of the statutorily permissible uses, and each local relief fund's ending balance.¹

Statewide Firefighters' Relief Fund

Chapter 58, Article 85 of the General Statutes establishes the Statewide Firefighters' Relief Fund, which is administered by the North Carolina State Firefighters' Association. The Statewide Firefighters' Relief Fund may be used for the purposes described in G.S. § 58-85-1. The information for the fund for 2022 is as follows:

Total amount of money disbursed from the fund:

\$1,032,550.56

Total amount of money spent for each of the statutorily permissible uses:

Insurance – LODD & AD&D \$756,752.00

Scholarships – \$211,087.60

Investment fees – \$21,931.00

¹ An Excel version of Attachment A is available upon request.

Administrative costs – \$27,661.39
Returned to fire departments – \$15,118.57

Ending fund balance:

\$5,332,285.47

Rescue Squad Workers' Relief Fund

Chapter 58, Article 88 of the General Statutes established the Rescue Squad Workers' Relief Fund. This relief fund is administered by the North Carolina Association of Rescue and Emergency Medical Services, Inc.. The purposes for which fund money can be used are listed in G.S. § 58-88-5. The information for the fund for 2022² is as follows:

Total amount of money disbursed from the fund:

\$1,311,255

Total amount of money spent for each of the statutorily permissible uses:

Miscellaneous – \$1,000
Bank Charge – \$5
Monetary Support – \$43,000
Scholarships – \$645,250
Death Benefits – \$622,000

Ending fund balance (net assets, end of year):

\$6,549,693

² The information for the Rescue Squad Workers' Relief Fund comes from its annual audit submitted to the Department and is for its financial year ending September 30, 2022.

Attachment A

